

Walter C. Shields Photograph album
(Bulk, 1911-1913) 1911-1928
Mss.SMs.Coll.4

American Philosophical Society
105 South Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA, 19106
215-440-3400
manuscripts@amphilsoc.org

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Background note	5
Scope & content	6
Administrative Information	7
Related Materials	7
Indexing Terms	7
Bibliography	8
Collection Inventory	9

Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Shields, Walter C.
Title	Walter C. Shields Photograph album
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1911-1913
Date [inclusive]	1911-1928
Call number	Mss.SMs.Coll.4
Extent	1.0 Volume(s) 18.6 x 28.8 cm. album, 208 photographs
Location	LH-MV-E-17
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Walter C. Shields was the Superintendent of Schools of the Northwest district of the Alaska division for the Bureau of Education of the United States Department of the Interior from 1910-1918. The photograph album reflects the dual role the Bureau of Education played in providing schools for Inupiat Eskimo children and domestic reindeer herding for their parents. The 199 original black and white photographs, dated 1911-1913, reflect individual and group portraits of Inupiat Eskimos, interior and exterior views of their homes and schools, reindeer sleds and round-ups. Taken by Shields and his colleague H. Barnette, some specific locations include Barrow, Wainwright, Noatak, Selawik, Buckland, Candle, Deering, Wales, and Shishmaref. Nine other photographs, dated 1916, 1928, are of dwellings and dog sleds in the White Mountains.</p>

Preferred Citation

Cite as: Walter C. Shields Photograph Collection, American Philosophical Society

Background note

Walter C. Shields was the Superintendent of Schools of the Northwest district of the Alaska division for the Bureau of Education of the United States Department of the Interior from 1910-1918. The photograph album reflects the dual role the Bureau of Education played in providing schools for Inupiat Eskimo children and domestic reindeer herding for their parents. In 1884, the federal government had determined that the natives in Alaska were largely self-sufficient so the government role would be restricted to educational needs. In 1890, Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary and head of the United States Bureau of Education in Alaska recruited missionaries who would serve as teachers for Wales, Point Hope and Barrow. Several church missions had an official connection with the bureau by which their missionaries were employed as teachers of the federal school system. Two years later, Jackson launched a program for developing reindeer herds to sustain the Inupiat Eskimos. Reindeer were entrusted to these mission schools with teacher's general supervision of herds and herders. With the gold rushes of Klondike and Nome, the Congress doubled the sums allotted for the bureau schools in the early 1900s. The population explosion of these two cities caused a new demand for products produced by the reindeer. In the midst of these changes, Walter C. Shields began his tenure as Northwest division superintendent. In a twofold capacity, he oversaw the increase in schools and reindeer herding in the Seward Peninsula. In his efforts, he tried to protect the natives from corruption by non-natives while encouraging their wealth and prestige by means of reindeer herding. Some of his contributions consist of creating new settlements or reviving older ones with new placements of schools. He introduced reindeer fairs where herd owners could exchange information, listen to lectures on animal husbandry, and band together in reindeer associations. The fairs were very popular among the Eskimos who respected Shield's innovations. Unfortunately, his untimely death during the 1918 flu epidemic ended his work.

Scope & content

Native American Images note : The photographs in the album reflect Shield's visit from 1911-1913 to the many new and re-established areas of school locations in arctic Northwest Alaska. The 199 original black and white silver gelatin ethnological photographs of Inupiat Eskimos include: group shots outside and inside of schools, individual portraits in winter dress, family living conditions in igloos, dog sleds, and reindeer round-ups. Taken by Shields and his colleague H. Barnette, primarily along the Chukchi sea coast, some specific locations include Barrow, Wainwright, Kivalina, Kotzebue, Buckland, Deering, Shishmaref, Wales, Teller, and Golovin, with some inland sites at Kobuk, and Noatak. The prints, affixed to black paper leaves of a leather-bound album, contain white ink captions with dates. Nine other photographs, dated 1916, 1928, are of dwellings and dog sleds in the White Mountains.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Purchased February, 2008

Processing Information

Catalogued June, 2008.

Related Materials

Related Material

The APS has several rich photographic collections documenting Native Americans, including the A. Zeno Shindler American Indian Photograph Collection, the Frank Speck Photograph Collection.

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Gelatin silver prints

Geographic Name(s)

- North Slope Borough (Alaska)
- Northwest Arctic Borough (Alaska)
- Seward Peninsula (Alaska)

Subject(s)

- Arctic peoples--Pictorial works
- Eskimos--Alaska--Education
- Eskimos--Alaska--Missions
- Indians of North America--Alaska
- Indians of North America--Alaska--Seward Peninsula
- Indians of North America--Alaska--Social life and customs
- Inupiat--Alaska--Barrow
- Inupiat--Alaska--Kotzebue
- Inupiat--Alaska--Seward Peninsula
- Inupiat--Alaska--Social life and customs
- Inupiat--Alaska--Teller
- Inupiat--Alaska--Wales
- Northwest Coast Indians
- Reindeer--Arctic regions

Bibliography

Collection Inventory

School house, Selawik	9 January 1912
-----------------------	----------------

Inupiat dwellings, Selawik

9 January 1912

Mission hospital, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Trail between Selawik and the Kobuk, adlers January 1913
along a creek

Trail between Selawik and the Kobuk, the lonesome pine	January 1913
---	--------------

School house, Shungnak

January 1913

New Teacher's residence, Shungnak

January 1913

Inupiat, group with dog, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat group, dwelling, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat at tea, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat at tea, Barrow, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2266\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2266)

Tukpuk, portrait, Barrow

March 1913

Trail from Council to Candle, fixing a sled	17 December 1911
---	------------------

Trail from Council to Candle, Simon having 17 December 1911
lunch

Leaving Council herd, group

16 December 1911

Shungnak herders, group

4 January 1912

Inupiat school children, Buckland

December 1913

Inupiat school children, Buckland, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2271\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2271)

Inupiat school children, group, Buckland

December 1913

Christmas tree and presents, Selawik

December 1913

Inupiat igloo, Selawik

December 1913

Inupiat igloo, Selwik, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2270\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2270)

Inupiat students, building, Kivalina

March 1913

Inupiat oldest, youngest students, Kivalina March 1913

Inupiat oldest, youngest students, Kivalina, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2268\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2268)

Officers school republic, Kivalina

March 1913

Earl Woodrow Wilson Negewanna, portrait, March 1913
Kivalina

Klemetsen and wife, with deer, Kivalina

March 1913

Reindeer, named Link, Kivalina

March 1913

Saw Tooth Mountains, Mosquito Pass, man, April 1912
reindeer, sled

Saw Tooth Mountains, Mosquito Pass, man April 1912
sitting on sled

Head of reindeer, no. 1

1912-1913

Head and shoulders of reindeer, no. 1

1912-1913

Mrs. Hefler, reindeer, harness, sled

1912-1913

Head and shoulders of reindeer, no.2

1912-1913

Reindeer

1912-1913

Deering to Igloo: Inupiat reindeer herders 1913

Deering to Igloo: Inupiat reindeer herders, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2267\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2267)

Deering to Igloo: Inupiat man with sled	1913
---	------

Deering to Igloo: reindeer fighting with feet	1913
---	------

Deering to Igloo: reindeer fighting with horns 1913

Driving sled through deep snow

1913

Leaving Kivalina, group

1912-1913

Leaving Barrow herd, group

1912-1913

Leaving Council herd, group

1912-1913

Alaskan camp site, Walter C. Shields	1913
--------------------------------------	------

Alaskan camp site, Walter C. Shields, 1913

[\[http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2269\]](http://diglib.amphilsoc.org/fedora/repository/graphics:2269)

Camp in mountains

1913

Chester Sevick, Jimmie Orealuk

1913

Saw Tooth Mountains: reindeer, sled

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains: reindeer, sled

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains, landscape

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains, landscape

April 1912

Selawik to Kobuk: reindeer driven by Walter 1912-1913
C. Shields

Selawik to Kobuk: reindeer, new harness

1912-1913

Deering to Igloo: reindeer sled, Walter C. Shields	1913
---	------

Deering to Igloo: reindeer sled, Walter C. Shields	1913
---	------

Saw Tooth Mountains, landscape

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains, sled

April 1912

Reindeer camp near Mosquito Pass

1912-1913

Dwelling at Shishmaref

1912-1913

Reindeer used from Kivalina to Ice Cape

1912-1913

Reindeer used from Kivalina to Ice Cape, with 1912-1913
sled

Reindeer race at Teller

1912-1913

Reindeer race at Teller, action photograph	1912-1913
--	-----------

Reindeer race at Teller, Mr. Lopp

1912-1913

Shishmaref to Wales: fast reindeer

1912-1913

Shishmaref to Wales: strong reindeer

1912-1913

Deering herders, group

1 February 1912

Noatak herders, group

7 January 1912

School house, Noatak

17 January 1912

School children, parents, outside school house, 17 January 1912

Noatak

Reindeer, Kobuk herd

1912-1913

Northern entrance to Mosquito Pass

1912-1913

Walter C. Shields, portrait, native attire

1912-1913

Walter C. Shields, portrait, native attire

1912-1913

Walter C. Shields, full-length portrait, native 1912-1913
attire

Roofs of Inupiat dwellings, Shishmaref

25 April 1912

Mr. and Mrs. Hefler, residence, Shishmaref	25 April 1912
--	---------------

Seal blubber, Shishmaref

25 April 1912

School, residence, Shishmaref

25 April 1912

Inupiat children, group, St. Lawrence Island	12 July 1912
--	--------------

Inspecting the meat herd, Nome

January 1912

Inspecting the meat herd, Nome

January 1912

Dwelling of modern type, Selawik

December 1913

Overseers, Quaker Church

Decdmber 1913

Inupiat family, dwelling, interior

1912-1913

Kugruk River between Selawik and Kobuk	1912-1913
--	-----------

Residence, school, Shungnak

January 1913

Judge Moran's fox ranch

January 1913

C.D. Jones, Jimmie, Shungnak

1913

Camp between Noatak and Kivalina

1913

Camp on Humboldt Creek, near Deering

1913

Reindeer and dogs travel together

1913

Camp, cooking

1912-1913

Camp, sleeping

1912-1913

Camp, Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Camp, Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Ship "Transit" at Teller

9 July 1912

Dr. Neumann, Mr. Starr, King Island

8 July 1912

Mungnok's camp, Kotzebue Sound

January 1913

Sleds, Kotzebue Sound

January 1913

Tuliksek and wife, Cape Krusenstern

January 1913

Tuliksek's dwelling, Cape Krusenstern

January 1913

Walter C. Shields, reindeer named Gasolene, April 1913
Sinuk

Walter C. Shields, reindeer named Uncle Sam, April 1913
Sinuk

Camp, Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Camp, alcohol stove, Saw Tooth Mountains April 1912

Camp, tent, Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, run-way, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, last herd, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December, 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Mr. and Mrs. Cox, Miss MacLeod, Kotzebue 25 January 1912

School children, group, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Minungun's reindeer camp, Kotzebue

13 January 1912

Minungun, with other Inupiat, in tent,
Kotzebue

13 January 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Saw Tooth Mountains

April 1912

Reindeer camp, Golovin mission

9 December 1911

Reindeer men at round-up, Golovin

10 December 1911

Driving the herd in from the tundra, Golovin 10 December 1911

Herd in the woods, Golovin

10 December 1911

Dr. Barbour at river bank, Noatak

January 1918

Church house, Noatuk

January 1918

Sleds on ice, seal hunt, Noatak

January 1918

Sleds on ice, seal hunt, Noatak

January 1918

Cape Thompson, natural arch

1918

Cape Thompson, strata

1918

Inupiat couple, Icy Cape

1918

Sampson, trapper, Noatak

1918

Mr. and Mrs. Cram, Alice Ahlook, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat with Mr. and Mrs. Cram, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat school group, Barrow

March 1913

Dog sled team, Barrow

March 1913

Inupiat dwellings, King Island

8 July 1912

Inupiat dwellings, roofs, King Island

8 July 1912

Inupiat dwelling, Bering Sea, King Island

8 July 1912

Old man of the island, King Island

8 July 1912

Mr. Harnden and family, Noatak

17 January 1912

Inupiat group, Noatak

17 January 1912

School house, Kivalina

21 January 1912

School house, Kivalina

21 January 1912

Mr. Bates, cache with bear skin, Wainwright March 1913

Inupiat school children, Wainwright

March 1913

Mr. and Mrs. Bates with Inupiat group,
Wainwright

March 1913

Inupiat school group, two teachers, Deering	30 January 1912
---	-----------------

Inupiat village group, Deering

30 January 1912

Missionary Mrs. Gooden with Inupiat child, 30 January 1912
Deering

Mrs. Hare, Inupiat interpreter, Deering

30 January 1912

Mrs. Hare, Miss Hunnicutt, Deering

30 January 1912

Jack and Ashagak in dwelling, Deering

30 Jan. 1912

Reindeer round-up, reading ear mark, Golovin 10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, milling, Golovin

10 December 1911

Reindeer round-up, corral, Golovin

10 December 1911

Walter C. Shields, Council

12-16 December 1911

Fish River, Council

12-16 December 1911

Willuk's cabin, reindeer camp, Council

12-16 December 1911

Tautuk, chief herder, group, Council

15 December 1911

Mr. Snow with Inupiat group

15 December 1911

Dr. Watkins, Dr. Neumann, Mrs. Caldwell, 10 July 1912
Wales

Caches, Wales

10 July 1912

Dr. Neumann, reindeer camp, St. Lawrence Island	12 July 1912
--	--------------

Dr. Neumann with Inupiat group

12 July 1912

Bluffs with reindeer sled between Wales and 3 May 1912
Teller

Lost River between Wales and Teller

3 May 1912

Walter C. Shields, Jimmie, camp below Kivalina	1912-1913
---	-----------

Inupiat camp dwelling, below Kivalina

1912-1913

Mr. and Miss Bates, Inupiat school children, 21 January 1912
Kivalina

Inupiat school children, school house, Kivalina 21 January 1912

Inupiat dwelling at Kivalina

21 January 1912

Camp Humbold creek en route Deering to Igloo	1912-1913
---	-----------

Modern Inupiat dwellings, Wales

1 May 1912

Older Inupiat dwellings, Wales

1 May 1912

Five Inupiat girls, outside, Kivalina

March 1913

Inupiat girl sitting on oil tank, Kivalina

March 1913

Walter C. Shields, Inupiat group, Kivalina

March 1913

Walter C. Shields, Inupiat group, camp,
Kivalina

March 1913

Inupiat group at reindeer herd, Kivalina

March 1913

Walter C. Shields, Inupiat couple, Kivalina	March 1913
---	------------

Mrs. Maguire, two Inupiat women, Kivalina	March 1913
---	------------

Inupiat mother, child carried on back, Kivalina March 1913

Maguire's son, Inupiat children, Kivalina

March 1913

Walter C. Shields, Mr. Maguire, Kivalina

March 1913

Tarlak, head council man, Kivalina

March 1913

Assukhanna, Inupiat man, Kivalina

March 1913

Inupiat dwelling, Buckland

1913

Inupiat dwelling, Shungnak

1913

Inupiat dwelling, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Snow cache, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Inupiat school children, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Inupiat village group, Kotzebue

25 January 1912

Inupiat dwelling, Mr. Evans' dwelling, above 1913
Pitmagea

Inupiat dwelling, boat frame, Pitmageda	1913
---	------

Inupiat dwelling, Icy Cape herd

1912-1913

Inupiat dwelling, skylight of walrus skin

1912-1913

Inupiat school children, uniforms, Wainwright 1912-1913

Coal ship, winter quarters

1912-1913

Barrow mission

March 1913

Reindeer Company haul poles for corral, near n.d.
Shungnak

Inupiat dwellings, Shungnak

n.d.

White Mountain

September 1916

Barrow

August 1916

Dr. Ronold, sled, dogs, Kanakauak

1928